for shipment of about 3.64 million tonnes of cargoes moving on Government account representing about 23.39 per cent of the total quantity of 15.56 million tonnes handled. In addition, during the same period 70 foreign vessels were allowed by Government to be taken on charter by Indian Shipping Companies and shippers.

Accumulation of Export Cargo at the Indira Gandhi International Airport

957. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Export Cargo is accumulating at the Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the offtake of the cargo by Air India has slowed down recently; if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware that the slow down of offtake by Air India will affect the exporters in a big way;

(e) if so, what remedial measures are being taken to clear the accumulating cargo immediately;

(f) whether it is a fact that an advisory committee consisting of exporters and officials was set up to view the situation; and

(g) if so, the number of times the said committee has met since its inception and what recommendations were made by the committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Since February, 1988 there has been some accumulation of export cargo at the I.G.I. Airport. The backlog as on 28.4.88 was around 2000 MT. This has now started reducing and the current accumulation has come down to about 1700 M.T.

(c) and (d) Except for occasional hold-up due to techno-operational reasons, the off-take of cargo by Air India has not slowed down recently. In fact, only a small percentage of the accumulated cargo pertains to Air India.

(e) The backlog position is constantly monitored by a Cell functioning under the D.G.C.A. The Airlines are constantly persuaded by D.G.C.A. and I.A.A.I. to accelerate the upliftment process.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The committee had met once in November, 1987. It was recommended that the Members should assess the infrastructural facilities and suggest measures to cope with the busy season. The committee also recommended that the exporting community should provide reliable data to enable IAAI and the airlines to meet their demands in the ensuing nine months.

Change in Management of Calcutta Dock Labour Board

958. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government are contemplating changes in the top management of Calcutta Dock Labour Board; and

(b) if so, when the change is likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The Chairman of the Dock Labour Board, Calcutta is the Chairman of the Port Trust and no change in the incumbent is contemplated.

(b) The question does not arise.